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21 May 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Procedures Concerning Intelligence Deficiencies in
National Intelligence Estimates

1. Since 3 February 1952 the question of analyzing finished NIE's and SE's with an eye to identifying intelligence deficiencies therein has been under discussion with the IAC agencies.

2. In these discussions two basic problems were dealt with:

- a. What are the agreed intelligence deficiencies in two estimates certain to be under continuing review i.e., NIE-35/1, "Probable Developments in Indochina through mid-1952" and in NIE-36/7, "Probable Developments in Yugoslavia and the Likelihood of Attack upon Yugoslavia, through 1952."
- b. What steps should be taken by IAC representatives at the estimating level to correct these deficiencies for NIE's like the above, which were certain to be under continuing review.

3. In these discussions there have been few difficulties with respect to identification of substantive intelligence deficiencies.

4. There has however been a considerable difference of opinion as to what steps should be taken. (See 2 b above)

- a. The Board, and the representatives of OIR, OEU, and JIC have felt that once a statement of deficiencies has been agreed to, it should go to the IAC for noting, and thus constitute an official IAC document to be passed to research and collection agencies for appropriate action via the Assistant Director for Intelligence Coordination.

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- 2 -

4. Representatives of G-2 and APOH have urged that the statement of substantive deficiencies not be brought to the IAC for noting, but that the statement be handed directly to the Assistant Director for Intelligence Coordination for appropriate action.

5. It is my belief that General Sanford no longer holds this position.

6. In a discussion which the DD/I and I had with General Rolling on 23 April, he did not uphold this view, but between then and now he appears to have taken it. Thus he would seem to be alone in his position.

7. Recommendation: That the DCI support the Board's position that agreed statements of intelligence deficiencies be forwarded to the IAC for noting.

SHERMAN LINT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

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